

Pelted with snowballs by crew back from Ice

The Argus Shipping Correspondent

A SUMMER snowfight took place in the docks today when the South African Antarctic supply and research vessel, RSA, returned from Antarctica with the ninth South African Antarctic expedition.

Relatives and friends who gathered on the quayside to welcome the expedition back were pelted with snowballs — obviously 'kept on ice' for the occasion.

Fourteen men came back with the ship, which carried two aircraft belonging to the Belgian Antarctic expedition.

STAYED BEHIND

Two members of the expedition — Clive Spenser, a diesel mechanic, and Anton Aucamp, a geologist — stayed behind and will spend another winter on the ice with the 10th expedition which replaced the returning team.

The expedition reported back in good health — and with luxurious 'hair styles.' Dr. H. Rode of Pretoria said that apart from a minor case of frost bite, the expedition had had no ill-health.



MISS LEONA BRILL (left) and her sister, Elise, took part in the snowball fight in the docks today when the South African Antarctic supply and research vessel, RSA, brought back the ninth South African Antarctic Expedition. The sisters were down from Johannesburg to welcome back a Potchefstroom friend, Mr. Dawie Smit.



HILMAR RODE was on the quayside in Table Bay harbour today to welcome back his uncle, Dr. H. Rode of Pretoria. And Hilmar (not quite two) was soon on arm-to-arm terms with the doctor's friend, Allinak, a husky barely one month old.

ill-health.

The voyage back was smooth and uneventful. Mr. J. Smith, a Pretoria geomagnetist, who was returning from his second spell in the Antarctic, said it was the first time the R.S.A. had seen no pack ice.

FLYING BACK

Two members of the Belgian team of eight men — Mr. K. Stelling and Mr. V. Daniels — are flying back to Belgium tomorrow, and the others will be going on three weeks' leave, like the South Africans.

The leader of the South African expedition was Mr. Danie Joubert and the Belgian leader was Mr. T. van Autenboer.